

In the Claims:

1-21 (cancelled)

22. (new) A device comprising a load cell that provides improved linearity and temperature transient behavior comprising:

a load cell with notches in the side of said load cell to equalize the strains on the load cell when an applied load is applied where material is removed from the load cell sides to form said notches with a plurality of load cell connected to said load cell, and having a connecting means on the top and bottom of said load cell.

23. (new) A device as claimed in claim 22 which is used to measure tension in a chain.

24. (new) A device comprising:

a load cell; with curves in the side of said load cell to equalize the strains on the load cell when an applied load is applied, wherein material is removed from the load cell sides above and below a strain gage to form said notches, where said strain gages are connected to the load cell and in close proximity to each other, where large strains generated by one body are imparted to another body on which strain gages are mounted, increasing the transverse strain at the gage location on the second body above that which could be achieved with Poisson's ratio.

25. (new) A device as claimed in claim 24 which has a strain gage located on a surface of the load cell that is perpendicular to the load cell.

26. (new) A device as claimed in claim 24 which has a connecting means on the top and bottom of said load cell.

27. (new) A device as claimed in claim 24 which has strain gages combined to form a Wheatstone bridge.

28. (new) A device as claimed in claim 24 which a plurality of strain gages have the same absolute strain producing linearity.